

## **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) BOARD MEETING**

**Date: February 1, 2006**

**Time: 10:00 A.M.**

**Location: 10 N. Senate Avenue, Room 301A  
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

**PRESENT:** Edmund Thais, President; Lowell Robinson, Vice-President; Sherlonda Anderson, Barry Baer (phone participant), Mo Davison, Bob Dickerson, and Brent Schoolcraft—Members. Also in attendance were: Maureen Weber, Deputy Commissioner, Employment Growth; Teresa Melton, Chief Legal Counsel; Monty Combs, Deputy Commissioner Finance/Controller; Pamela Grenard, UIM Project Manager.

**ABSENT:** Tom Hargrove and Sean Seyferth—Members

- Called to order by Board President Edmund Thais
- Quorum was present.
- Three (3) guests present—Steven Bier, UI Review Board Chair; Robin Everman, UIM Project Director with Haverstick Consulting, Inc (UIM Project contractor); and Tim Peterson, Tier Technologies, Inc (UIM Project contractor).

### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

- Ms. Weber noted that the Commissioner had another appointment and hoped to be available later in the meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- The minutes of the January 4, 2006 meeting were unanimously adopted on a motion by Mr. Dickerson, with a second by Mr. Robinson. All members present signed the official Minute Book.
- In response to a question posed at a prior meeting, Ms. Melton stated, as long as Board members act in the scope of their duties they cannot be personally sued. So long as IDWD does not have a conflict with the case, she (IDWD's Legal Dept) would represent them in conjunction with the Attorney General's (AG's) office.
- In response to a question from Mr. Thais concerning whether the Board may consider any business not identified on the agenda, Ms. Melton replied that the open door law only requires that an agenda be posted as planned prior to the meeting, noting that any last minute additions can be made to an agenda and still be within the parameters of the open door laws.
- Ms. Weber noted that the Commissioner had wanted to be in attendance for the discussion of the legislative agenda and asked to table the matter to the end of the meeting, giving the Commissioner a chance to perhaps conclude his current meeting and join this one. The Board concurred.

- In response to a question from Mr. Robinson about DWD's collection efforts, Ms. Melton noted that DWD administrative staff was to meet with AG's office regarding the service contract/agreement to clear up remaining issues.
- Additionally, Ms. Melton noted a report will be submitted each month to the Board regarding list of employers delinquent in paying UI tax money to DWD.
- Ms. Weber noted in a response to a question posed by Mr. Robinson that the Fidelity/Visteon issue had been resolved based on the Board's decision.
- In response to a question from Mr. Baer, Ms. Weber reported on the small business month initiative. This initiative provides information to small businesses with regards to training grant programs and other resources (i.e., Skills Initiative, WorkKeys) available through IDWD's Strategic Research and Development Unit.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Ms. Pam Grenard updated the Board on the UI Modernization Project. Software purchases were not included in the project contracts; however, most purchases were at a reduced government rate. Once completed, this project will be the property of the State. Discussion followed.
- Mr. Combs reported that the new debit card program for unemployment claims will take effect no later than June, 2006.
- Ms. Weber updated the Board on IDWD's 2006 legislative package. No significant changes were made other than to the domestic violence portion. Discussion on the legislative package followed.

**ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:** There was no topic of discussion at this time.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:** Mr. Combs noted that he had been updated during the meeting to the effect Fidelity had paid the interest payment as agreed upon.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

**REVIEW OF MEETINGS:** Next meeting is March 1, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at IDWD's Administrative Office.